THE UNDERSTUDY.

SUBACTORS WHO MUST BE READY TO TAKE PRINCIPALS' PLACES.

Delays and Uncertainties They Find In Getting to the Front-They May Go Through an Entire Season With No Chance to Show Th Ar Powers.

After two years of patient waiting and study a young actress, who was an understudy in one of the principal stock companies in town, gave up her position the other day because during all that time she never got an opportunity to display her talents before the public. She was on the salary list of the company, and as wages are paid 52 weeks in the ments of human beings is obtained from year by that particular organization it the short wool on the backs of sheep and seemed rather like quitting a good thing, but it was not a question of finance with | ton plant, which hides its seeds in a ball her. She is an actress of recognized abil- of white fluff from which we spin the ity, and understudying was not particu- cotton. Silk is an especially notable inlarly suited to her taste. She had part stance of the way in which our race after part in new plays and reproduct makes much out of little for its needs. tions, but the principal somehow or other managed to get through without being feeds upon the glutinous leaves of the all, or never suffered any mishap, so it mulberry and gradually fills itself with seemed as if the actress was destined to a sticky compound which has for its dibecome a permanent understudy. This rect purpose to compose the cocoon. instance is only one of numberless similar experiences showing the trials and undergo that strange metamorphosis tribulations of understudies.

supplied in the matter of understudies, | composed entirely of one long thread. dent will take them to the front. Most | ends man undees for objects of beauty, studies receive their parts almost at the from the point where the silkworm bea play as the principals.

Manager Charles Frohman's company understudies. Eight of these are em- painting than the soft shining web ployed as regular members of the com- which is made from the poor werm's pany the year round, and while they are patient labor.

probably not seen more than once or Extraordina ready for any emergency that may arise. Augustin Daly's and A. M. Palmer's comstudies, and both have long lists of ama-Every big traveling organization gendenly be incapacitated the second come-dian jumps in, and so on all through the warm, durable and freely taking all studies all the actors, while the latter is perfect in all the feminine roles. Their salaries and expenses are on a par with those of the principals.

Although many of the stars now conspicuous in the theatrical firmament began their dramatic career as understudies, it is not often nowadays that the stars themselves are understudied. It is China was still the chief source of supgenerally assumed by the managers that the star is the attraction for the public and to substitute somebody else is to practice a deception which is injurious to the show. In some instances, however, where the star has had to be replaced by an understudy, the latter has made even a better hit than the star.

Billy Crane was an understudy in the beginning, and Manager Joe Brooks tells an amusing anecdote of the actor's first experience as an understudy. He served in that capacity with a company that produced "The Daughter of the Regiment" in this city some years ago. Among the parts which Crane had to commit to memory was that of the notary. It was a particularly hard part be cause the notary had to begin by declaiming a long legal notice. Crane got the part pat, but in order that there should be no possibility of his making a break he copied the process into a book which the notary was supposed to carry. The notary wore a robe that trailed or. the floor. In making his entrance Crane's foot became tangled up in the robe and he pitched headforemost on the stage. The book with the prompt lines flew across the stage. Crane pulled himself together in a moment, and without losing his presence of mind began firing the process off. He went through without a break, and his original entrance made a hit with the audience.

One of the most notable instances of Denman Thompson was in the midst of his long run with "The Old Homestead" at the Academy of Music. Walter Gale, whose characterization of Happy Jack, the tramp, was supposed to be inimitable, was ill, and at the eleventh hour the manager heard of the trouble. The cumbed.-New York Sun.

Atmospheric Expansions.

Some interesting observations of a cosmical nature are announced as having been made by M. Frye, the well known hydrographical engineer, who after years has a half score of considerable lakes, of patient study has calculated the atmospheric expansions and depressions which | 300 square miles and many scores of coincide with spring and neap tides. He | small lakes and ponds scattered over an declares there have been cases in which air was moved in waves 133 yards high, and in places where the barometrical pressure was seven-tenths of an inch, or 612 miles, near the upper surface of the earth's atmosphere, condensations and dilations of this magnitude being frequent, the incandescent and fluid matter under the earth's crust is found to act in concert with the air and sea at the full of the moon. This conclusion is based upon the data of observations made simultaneously at different and widely distant geographical points, the fact being established that the earth based upon the data of observations fact being established that the earth rises and falls like the ocean and the atmosphere.—New York Sun.

Victoria's Shortbread.

There is an old woman up at Perth, in Scotland, who communicates with Queen Victoria every day in the year. Her majesty is fond of most things Scotch, among others shortbread. Now, for some reason or other shortbread cannot be made in Enlgand as it should be. But a few years ago her majesty discovered at Perth an old woman who could make it as no one else, even in Scotland, could make it, since which time the same aged dame: has every day baked with her own hads a cake of shortbread, packed it herself and dispatched it to the queen.-Philadelphia Ledger.

THE A SILK WORMS THREAD.

The Wonderful Creation of a Still More Wanterbil Insect. Silk! What a wonderful product it is. and what a marvelous trade has sprung out of it! One of the astonishing facts in the history of the human race is the way in which great results are attained for it out of little causes. It is conceivable that the food of man might have been derived from some of the largest fruits or nuts or roots which grow upon the earth. The bulk of the bread of mankind-"the staff of life"-is, however, drawn, as all know, not from the heavy bread fruit or big tubers, but from the comparatively minute grains of wheat, barley and rye, millet and rice. In like manner the larger portion of the gargoats or from the small pod of the cot-

Here is an insignificant worm which When the time comes for the worm to into the chrysalis, it ceases to eat and All the big stock companies are well | slowly weaves round itself a casing nd while they are required to keep a Its spinning finished, the attenuated certain number of professionals on hand creature takes the intermediate form they have innumerable applications from preparatory to its winged state as a amateur aspirants for histrionic honors, moth, nor is anything in nature more who are only too willing to serve as un- full of creative mystery and design. derstudies on the chance that some acci- What the worm does for its own lenely of these come from the different schools fashion and comfort. The silk grower for the training of actors. The under- patiently unwinds the lustrous thread same time they are delivered to the prin- gan to that where its filmy house was cipals. They are rehearsed regularly finished, and from this tiny plunder with the company and are presumed to springs the whole vast edifice of the silk be as well prepared for the first night of industry. To the small pale worm beauty owes her most lovely and glittering raiment, nor has art anything more exis probably one of the best equipped or- quisite to fashion, to embroider, to beganizations in the country in the way of stow in splendid folds or to imitate in

Extraordinary is the difference betwice during a season they are always tween the minute cocoon and the great bale of Lyons or china satin-the unconscious toil of the caterpillar and the panies are also well supplied with under- looms that in a thousand factories and workshops interlace the thin fiber into teurs ready to go on at a moment's no- such superb and dazzling patterns. tice in case of sickness or other necessity. Nothing can imitate, nothing excel the charm of that fine microscopic tissue erally carries two understudies while on drawn by the worm's magic from the the road. Some companies dispense with mulberry leaf. It possesses a natural their services, however, by requiring the glitter which is shared by nothing else members of the company to make them- in the world and which makes it resemselves proficient in two or more parts. ble under the microscope waving wires Thus if the first comedian should sud- of gold. Manufactured into cloth, it cast. The understudies who travel regu- sorts of dyes, each creature contributing larly with the company are usually a in his cocoon about 1,000 feet of the man and a woman. The former under- thin thread. The west knew nothing of since 2700 B. C. Some Persian monks first brought eggs of the silkworm in a hollow cane to Constantinople, A. D. 552. The Emperor Justinian took the business up, and so it spread to Italy, Spain and southern France, although

ply.-London Telegraph. Keep Plant Leaves Clean.

One of the difficulties in the cultiva tion of plants in a sitting room is that the dry air and dust-tend to clog the pores of the leaves. Deprived of the rain which would naturally cleanso them and not often watered with a rose. pot or syringe, the plants kept in a room are apt gradually to lose their health and look miserable, if they do not altogether die. The best remedy for this is the regular use of a small piece of soft old sponge with slightly warm water, and if a little soft soap is added all the better. Especially is this necessary in the winter when dust is rife, and as "blight" is then at its weakest point a thorough cleansing during the cold months will result in freedom from it during the summer. Practice and delicate handling are needed for success, Some plants are much easier to sponge than others. Among these may be mentioned the india rubber plant, and also small specimens of palms, both of which need frequent washings when grown in a room. Orange trees and many other plants exude a kind of sticky essential oil, which catches the dust. They therefore require special attention. Aspidistras and many other plants need sponging often to keep them in health-in fact, all plants with overgreen follage understudying was that furnished while and others which will bear it are strengthened and improved by the free ase of the sponge. - Cleveland Leader.

We learn to love by loving. It grows by practice. Like everything else, it gathers strength through exercise. The part was a most important one in the more we keep at it the easier and more east, and nobody could be found to take | natural it becomes. We can form the it among the members of the company. | habit of looking at people with love, Finally a young Irishman named James | thinking about them with love, speak-Fitzgerald, who was acting as dresser to ing of them in love and acting toward Thompson, astonished that actor by de- them lovingly. Our deeds will react claring that he would take the part. It spon our thoughts, and our thoughts seems that he was understudying Gale | and feelings will prompt to action. So right along tinknown to anybody. Fitz- we may become steeped in love. It will gerald went on that night and imitated | radiate from us as the light from the Gale to a dot in everything except the lamps. We shall be charged with it as latter's soul racking cough. Young the battery is with electricity, and pow-Fitzgerald made a hit and played Happy | er will go out from us. So instead of Jack many times, but his career was crying idly, "Oh, for more love!" let brought to an untimely close by an at- as lay more stress upon the practice. If tack of pneumonia, to which he suc- we continually use what we have, it will increase.—New York Ledger.

Florida's Lakes.

Florida is one of the greatest of lake states, if the number of its lakes and lakelets entitle it to be so classed. It including Okechobee, with more than trea 40 or 50 miles wide and several undred miles long.—Chicago Herald. Ellicott City Mail Service.

Mails leaving Ellicott City close as follows EAST-8.10 and 9.45 A. M., 320 and 5.50 P. WEST-4.10 A. M. and 1.35 P. M. Mails arrive as follows: FROM THE EAST—4.50, 8.49 A. M.; 1.49 and 4.59 P. M. FROM THE WEST—19.06 A. M. and 3.43 P. M.

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587288227988877988255 5872882279888755

Dally. †Dally except Snuday.

WESTERN MARI LAND RAILROAD. SCHEDULE TAKING EFFECT MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1891. Leave Hillen Station as follows:

DAILY. 4.39 A.M.—Fast Mail for Norfolk and Westera R. R. the South and Southwest; also Glyndon, Westminster, New Windsor, Union Bridge, Mechanicstown, Blue Ridge, Highfield, Edgemont, Hagerstown, and, except Sunday, Williamsport, Clear Spring and Cherry Run, Chambersburg, Waynesboro', B. and C. V. R. R., Martinsburg and Winchester, Va.

DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY. 7.22 A. M.—Accommodation for York, Hanover, Gettysburg, Pa., and all B. and H. Div. points; also Eastern Extension and Main Line cast of Emory Grove; also Carlisle and G. and H. Raihoad.

8.00 A. M.—Mail for Cherry Run, W. Va., Clear Spring, Williamsport, Hagerstown, Shippensburg and pointron Main Line & B. & C. V. R. R.; also Frederick and Emmittsburg, also N. & W. R. R. to Shenandoah, Va. 19.05 A M.—Accommodation for Union Bridge, York and Gettysburg, Carlisle and points on G. & H. R. R.

York and Gettysburg, Carlisle and points on G. & H. R. R.
2.25 P. M.—Accommodation for Emory Grove 3.20 P. M.—Express for Arlington, Howardville, Mt. Wilson, Owing's Mill, Glyndon, York, Hanover, Gettysburg, B. & H. Division, Carlisle, Gettysburg and Harrisburg Railroad.
4.02 P. M.—Express for Arlington, Mt. Hope, Sudbrook Park, Pikesville, Green Spring Junction, Owings' Mills, Glyndon, Glen Falls, Finksburg, Patapseo, Carrollton, Tannery, Westminster, Avondale, Medford, New Windsor and Stations West to Cherry Run; also Emmitsburg, B. and C. V. R. R., Norfolk and Western R. R. and points South. South. 5.15 p. M.—Accon modation for Emory Grove 5.15 p. M.—Accommodation for Union Bridge. 11.25 P. M.-Accommodation for Emory Grove

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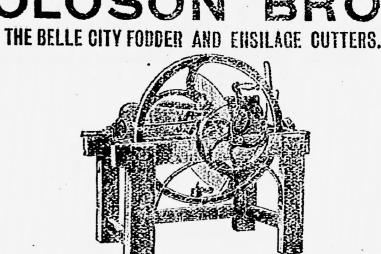
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